

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: NAPLES PCI MAYOR TO BE REELECTED

REF: NAPLES 549, 644, 694

1.POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES MET IN ROME THIS WEEK

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TO COMPLETE NAPLES CITY GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS. ALMOST THREE MONTHS OF MANEUVER FOR ADVANTAGE ENDED WITH A DEAL TO REELECT PCI MAYOR VALENZI, WHO TENDED HIS RESIGNATION ON APRIL 5 FOLLOWING A FAVORABLE DC VOTE ON THE BUDGET (SEE REFTELS). DC EFFORTS IN APRIL AND MAY TO SEEK A LAY CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR FAILED BECAUSE NEITHER THE PSI NOR THE PRI WERE THEN WILLING TO TAKE THE PLUNGE. MORE RECENTLY THE SOCIAL-ISTS CALLED FOR A LAY MAYOR (OBVIOUSLY PSI) BUT (. OTHERS IN THE GIU NTA. THAT IS STILL POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE

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DC AND IN ANY CASE PSI MOVES CAME LATE - AFTER THE CHRISTIAN DEMO-CRATS AND COMMUNISTS HAD REACHED A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT - AND ONLY SERVED TO DELAY MATTERS.

2. THE INTER-PARTY AGREEMENT SHOULD INCLUDE:

A. REELECTION OF PCI MAYOR VALENZI. THIS IS "SCHEDULED" FOR JUNE 22 CITY COUNCIL SESSION BUT LAST MINUTE CONTRETEMPS MAY WELL DELAY VOTE

UNTIL NEXT WEEK.

B. INCLUSION OF THE PRI IN THE GIUNTA. THE REPUBLICANS FORMED PART OF THE MAJORITY BUT DECLINED GIUNTA REPRESENTATION IN THE LAST VALENZI GOVERNMENT. THE CITY'S EXECUTIVE SHOULD THEN BE COMPOSED OF 9 PCI (PREVIOUSLY 10) , 4 PSI, 4 PSDI, AND 1 PRI COUNCILMEN.

C. DC ENTRY INTO A "PROGRAM ACCORD WITH POLITICAL CONTENT". THE DC

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IS EXPECTED TO VOTE FOR THE COMMON PROGRAM AT THE SAME TIME WITHHOLDING ITS VOTES FROM THE PCI MAYOR AND NEW GIUNTA. PCI SPOKESMAN TERMED THE DC ATTITUDE "INADEQUATE" BUT "POSITIVE".

D. NEW CITY COMMITTEES TO OVERSEE SEPARATE SPECIAL PROJECTS. ONE WOULD CONTROL CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CITY CENTER AND ANOTHER SEE TO WORK ON THE NAPLES SUBWAY.

3. COMMENT: MAYOR VALENZI SPOKE TO THE CONSUL GENERAL AT A CEREMONIAL FUNCTION ON JUNE 21 AND NOTED THAT HIS REELECTION WAS PROBABLE. VALENZI WAS HIS OLD RELAXED SELF WITH NO TRACE OF THE SUBDUED MIEN HE EVIDENCED IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS. THE POLITICAL DEAL IS OBVIOUSLY GOOD FOR HIM AND APPARENTLY THE PCI AS WELL. THE COMMUNISTS HAVE AT LEAST PARTIALLY SUCCEEDED IN INVOLVING THE DC IN THE PCI-LED NAPLES GOVERNMENT. FOR THE DC THERE ARE PLUSES AND MINUSES. THE PARTY DID NOT ACHIEVE THAT CHANGE IN NEAPOLITAN POLITICAL FRAMEWORK IT HOPED FOR BACK IN APRIL (A NON PCI MAYOR) AND LEADERS OF THE SO-CALLED NAPLES "ALTERNATIVE SLATE" HAVE EXPRESSED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MISGIVINGS TO US. HOWEVER, THE DEAL APPARENTLY PROMISES ENOUGH TO BE ATTRACTIVE. LOCAL "BOSS" AND MASTER OF PATRONAGE, ANTONIO GAVA, PERSONALLY TIED UP THE FINAL PACKAGE. THE ATTRACTION MAY INCLUDE A POSSIBLY PREPONDERANT DC ROLE IN CITY CENTER CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER

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PROJECTS. ALSO WITH ROME FOCUSED ON THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND OTHER UNCERTAINTIES, A SETTLEMENT IN NAPLES IS DESIRABLE. POLITICAL ADVANTAGE OR DEAL ASIDE NAPLES MUST LONG FOR AN EFFECTIVE CITY ADMINISTRATION WHICH WILL DEFEY HISTORY BY ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS. IF THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE THE HOPE IS THAT ROME CAN AT LEAST BE INDUCED (NOW THAT THE DC IS NO LONGER IN OPPOSITION) TO DIRECT A MEASURABLE FLOW OF PROJECTS AND AID IN THIS DIRECTION. COLANTONIO.

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